

tax.txt

A year ago I wrote the following letter to Malcolm Turnbull, Scott Morrison, Tony Abbott, Greg Hunt.

Subject: A tax change idea to benefit families

My background is a "system engineer" on main frame computers.  
Late 2011 ExxonMobil terminated my companies contract.  
After 24 years of service. I had to lay off 12 employees.  
As we were replaced by \$2 a day Asians.

I changed my career totally. I retrained my self.  
At my cost with no government assistance.  
I got my Cert III in Civil construction.  
So since 2012 I have been a Plant Operator /  
Tipper Driver and Water Cart Driver.

So now I'm a wage earner.  
Earning a grand a week.  
Working from 6 to 6.  
So every dollar means allot.  
I can't tell you how much it hurts when the power bill goes up.  
Or when our rates increase. Or when rego increases.  
So as all government "charges" go up (at least by CPI every year.)  
we have to remove other costs. Things that we can no longer  
afford are Farm insurance, car insurance, health insurance, etc.  
Even a family trip in the car to the beach has to be budgeted into what  
we can or cannot afford.  
I have spoken to many of my work mates and they too are in the same boat.

Now one area that really rubs salt into a wound is "Over Time".  
When we are asked to work over time it's good as  
more income helps our family's bottom line.  
However I see an unproportional increase in our tax bill.

- If I earnt \$967 in a no overtime week, I would receive \$796  
in my pocket. 82% of my pay is in my pocket.
- Now if I earnt \$1,480 in a week with overtime, I would  
receive \$1,131 in my pocket. That's 76% of my pay in my  
pocket.

So for working harder the government is penalising me.  
The government is getting an extra 6% for doing nothing at all.  
It's unfair and it fly's against the governments mantra of we  
need to work smarter and become more efficient.  
I would argue that we (the workers) do all that, while the government  
gets richer, fatter and more inefficient.

So how can we reward workers for their effort.  
A real simple solution. Don't tax Over Time.

Any hours over 8 hours a day is overtime.  
Those overtime hours shouldn't be taxed. Working this out on a daily basis  
covers full time workers and casual staff (Which is my industry is over 60%).  
To really reward the wage workers of Australia the Government should.

- 1- Implement "No Over Time Tax" immediately
- 2- Back date (1) from when the Liberals took power  
from Labor.
- 3- Don't have the worker fill in a form to claim (2) back.  
Have the employer work out the Over Time Tax  
and pay a lump sum to the employee.  
With in 3 months of the announcement.

If you want the vote from the average worker you need to start by making the  
system fair and by rewarding  
the worker for the extra effort we are making.

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This would be welcome in the upcoming budget.